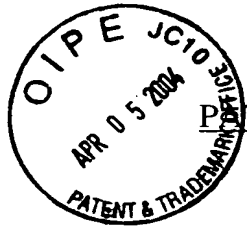


BOSE McKINNEY & EVANS LLP

CUSTOMER NUMBER 25267

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PATENT APPLICATION

*IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE*

Group: 3762  
Atty. Docket: 8266-1187  
Applicants: Ellis et al.  
Invention: FLUID SUPPLY APPARATUS  
FOR A MATTRESS  
Serial No.: 10/719,183  
Filed: November 21, 2003  
Examiner: Unknown

Certificate Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.8(a)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

on March 31, 2004

Timothy E. Niednagel

Dated: March 31, 2004

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This statement is filed in the application identified above pursuant to 37 CFR §§ 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98. Applicants call attention to the art references within the knowledge of applicants and their attorney which are listed on the attached PTO Form 1449. No representation is intended that a complete search has been made or that no better art references are available. The filing of this statement shall not be construed to be an admission that the information cited in the statement is, or is considered to be, material to the patentability as defined in 1.56(b).

REMARKS

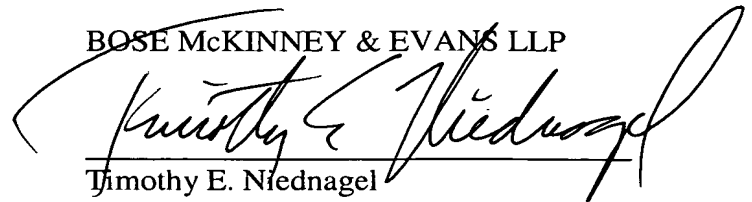
The listed references were cited in parent application Serial No. 09/509,452 which is relied upon for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. §120. Therefore, copies of the references are not required. None of the art cited on the attached PTO Form 1449 is believed to disclose or suggest the invention recited in the claims of the above-identified application.

It is therefore believed that the claimed invention is patentably distinguishable over these references.

Please charge any fees that might be due in connection with this Information Disclosure Statement to Bose McKinney & Evans LLP's Deposit Account No. 02-3223.

Respectfully submitted,

BOSE McKINNEY & EVANS LLP

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read "Timothy E. Niednagel". The signature is written over a horizontal line.

Timothy E. Niednagel

Registration No.: 33,266

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|   |                                  |                          |
|---|----------------------------------|--------------------------|
| <b>FORM PTO-1449</b><br>U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE<br>PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE<br><br><b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT</b><br><i>(Use several sheets if necessary)</i> | ATTY DOCKET NO.<br>8266-1187     | SERIAL NO.<br>10/719,183 |
|   | APPLICANT<br>Ellis et al.        |                          |
|   | FILING DATE<br>November 21, 2003 | GROUP<br>3762            |



| U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS   |    |                 |            |                             |       |          |                           |
|---|----|-----------------|------------|-----------------------------|-------|----------|---------------------------|
| *EXAMINER INITIAL   |    | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE       | NAME                        | CLASS | SUBCLASS | FILING DATE IF APPLICABLE |
|   | AA | 4,312,352       | 01/26/1982 | Meisch et al.               |       |          |                           |
|   | AB | 5,235,713       | 08/17/1993 | Guthrie et al.              |       |          |                           |
|   | AC | 5,251,349       | 10/12/1993 | Thomas et al.               |       |          |                           |
|   | AD | 5,267,364       | 12/07/1993 | Volk                        |       |          |                           |
|   | AE | 5,275,170       | 01/04/1994 | Lewis                       |       |          |                           |
|   | AF | 5,542,136       | 08/06/1996 | Tappel                      |       |          |                           |
|   | AG | 5,542,138       | 08/06/1996 | Williams et al.             |       |          |                           |
|   | AH | 5,611,096       | 03/18/1997 | Bartlett et al.             |       |          |                           |
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|   | AJ | 5,664,270       | 09/09/1997 | Bell et al.                 |       |          |                           |
|   | AK | 5,729,853       | 03/24/1998 | Thompson                    |       |          |                           |
| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS  |    |                 |            |                             |       |          |                           |
|   |    | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE       | COUNTRY                     | CLASS | SUBCLASS | TRANSLATION               |
|   |    |                 |            |                             |       |          | YES NO                    |
|   | AL | 0 649 645       | 04/26/1995 | European Patent Application |       |          |                           |
|   | AM | WO 96/14785     | 05/23/1996 | WIPO                        |       |          |                           |
|   | AN |                 |            |                             |       |          |                           |
|   | AO |                 |            |                             |       |          |                           |
|   | AP |                 |            |                             |       |          |                           |
|   | AQ |                 |            |                             |       |          |                           |
| OTHER REFERENCES (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)   |    |                 |            |                             |       |          |                           |
|   | AR |                 |            |                             |       |          |                           |
|   | AS |                 |            |                             |       |          |                           |
|   | AT |                 |            |                             |       |          |                           |
| EXAMINER  |    |                 |            | DATE CONSIDERED             |       |          |                           |
| *EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. |    |                 |            |                             |       |          |                           |

|   |                                  |                          |
|---|----------------------------------|--------------------------|
| <b>FORM PTO-1449</b><br>U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE<br>PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE<br><br><b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT</b><br><i>(Use several sheets if necessary)</i> | ATTY DOCKET NO.<br>8266-1187     | SERIAL NO.<br>10/719,183 |
|   | APPLICANT<br>Ellis et al.        |                          |
|   | FILING DATE<br>November 21, 2003 | GROUP<br>3762            |

| U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS |    |                 |            |                |       |          |                              |
|-----------------------|----|-----------------|------------|----------------|-------|----------|------------------------------|
| *EXAMINER<br>INITIAL  |    | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE       | NAME           | CLASS | SUBCLASS | FILING DATE<br>IF APPLICABLE |
|                       | BA | 5,815,864       | 10/06/1998 | Sloop          |       |          |                              |
|                       | BB | 5,975,081       | 11/02/1999 | Hood et al.    |       |          |                              |
|                       | BC | 5,983,429       | 11/16/1999 | Stacy et al.   |       |          |                              |
|                       | BD | 6,047,424       | 04/11/2000 | Osborne et al. |       |          |                              |
|                       | BE | 6,339,410       | 01/15/2002 | Milner et al.  |       |          |                              |
|                       | BF |                 |            |                |       |          |                              |
|                       | BG |                 |            |                |       |          |                              |
|                       | BH |                 |            |                |       |          |                              |
|                       | BI |                 |            |                |       |          |                              |
|                       | BJ |                 |            |                |       |          |                              |
|                       | BK |                 |            |                |       |          |                              |

| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS |    |                 |      |         |       |          |             |    |
|--------------------------|----|-----------------|------|---------|-------|----------|-------------|----|
|                          |    | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | COUNTRY | CLASS | SUBCLASS | TRANSLATION |    |
|                          |    |                 |      |         |       |          | YES         | NO |
|                          | BL |                 |      |         |       |          |             |    |
|                          | BM |                 |      |         |       |          |             |    |
|                          | BN |                 |      |         |       |          |             |    |
|                          | BO |                 |      |         |       |          |             |    |
|                          | BP |                 |      |         |       |          |             |    |
|                          | BQ |                 |      |         |       |          |             |    |

| OTHER REFERENCES (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.) |    |                 |  |
|---|----|-----------------|--|
|   | BR |                 |  |
|   |    |                 |  |
|   | BS |                 |  |
|   |    |                 |  |
|   | BT |                 |  |
|   |    |                 |  |
| EXAMINER  |    | DATE CONSIDERED |  |

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